BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 93-594-C - ORDER NO. 93-1072/

NOVEMBER 24, 1993

IN RE: Request of Horry Telephone Cooperative,
Inc. for Approval of Revisions to its
General Customers Services Tariff to
Offer an Area Calling Plan (ACP) to its
Subscribers.

ORDER
APPROVING
PETITIONS TO
INTERVENE
OUT OF TIME

This matter is before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of separate Petitions to Intervene filed by the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina (Consumer Advocate) and by the South Carolina Public Communications Association (SCPCA).

The Consumer Advocate requests intervention in this proceeding pursuant to its discretionary duty to provide legal representation of the consumer interest before state regulatory agencies when such agencies undertake to fix rates or prices for consumer products or services or to enact regulations or establish policies related thereto.

SCPCA asserts that it is a non-profit corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of South Carolina, representing over thirty (30) members, many of whom are payphone providers operating within the state. SCPCA requests intervention stating that it has a vital interest in the instant proceeding as many of its members provide public telephone service in the Horry service areas. SCPCA also states that it should be permitted to intervene in this proceeding in order to participate fully and

present testimony and other evidence as appropriate in order to assist the Commission's deliberations and otherwise assert SCPCA's interests. SCPCA further asserts that its interests would not otherwise be represented in this proceeding. SCPCA offers that its Petition to Intervene is tardily filed because the SCPCA has been undergoing reorganization of its management structure which resulted in SCPCA not being able to review the potential impact of this tariff filing on the payphone industry until after the expiration of the return date.

The Commission has considered the Petitions to Intervene filed by the Consumer Advocate and SCPCA and believes that allowing the Consumer Advocate and SCPCA to intervene out of time, as formal parties of record in this proceeding, would not prejudice any of the other parties at this juncture. Therefore, the Commission finds and concludes that the Petitions to Intervene Out of Time filed by the Consumer Advocate and SCPCA should be granted.

The Commission would like to remind all parties that

Commission practice requires all Petitions to Intervene Out of Time

to state a reason for the untimely filing of the Petitions.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Petition to Intervene Out of Time filed by the Consumer Advocate is hereby granted.
- 2. The Petition to Intervene Out of Time filed by SCPCA is hereby granted.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Hairman H. Jones

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)